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PROGRAMME PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Country, intercountry and global programmes

EXTENSION OF THE FOURTH COUNTRY PROGRAMME FOR GUYANA

Note by the Administrator

Period of extension	Resources	$
1993	Net, IPF	2 882 000
	Estimated cost-sharing	2 789 000
	Total	5 671 000

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I. JUSTIFICATION

1. The fourth country programme for Guyana was approved by the Governing Council at its special session in February 1987 for the period 1987 to 1991. In March 1992, the Government of Guyana requested an extension of this country programme pending completion of discussions which would lead to preparation of the fifth country programme, the draft of which was completed in July 1992; however, national elections held in October 1992 resulted in a change of government. The new Government has decided to conduct a thorough review of the draft country programme in order to redefine objectives and strategies in light of changed economic and political circumstances and new policy priorities.

2. A major concern of the new Government is that the country's indicative planning figure (IPF) resources may not adequately meet the substantial technical assistance needs of the national development programme. The proposed country programme would therefore be reviewed within the wider context of available resources and the need to develop a resource mobilization strategy. The Government intends to complete this review and submit the fifth country programme to the Governing Council at its special session in February 1994.

II. OBJECTIVES

3. In view of the pattern of negative growth of the economy through the 1980s, the new Government's principal objective is to intensify the reform efforts initiated in 1989 with a view to restructuring the economy and returning to historical levels of production and productivity. An allied objective is to improve the Government's institutional capacities for planning, implementation, monitoring and management of the economic and social recovery processes.

4. Two objectives of the fourth country programme are consistent with the national objectives outlined above. The first of these country programme objectives is to increase the performance and output of the production sectors, and the second, to improve public-sector planning and management capacities. The new Government has also decided to promote democratization and good governance as additional developmental objectives to be pursued with UNDP support. In line with those objectives, it intends, during 1993, to strengthen the Guyana Elections Commission and to establish a race relations commission.

III. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

5. During the period of the proposed extension, UNDP will continue to help the Government to increase production and productivity. In the agriculture sector, this will be accomplished through programmes initiated in 1992 in support of the National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) and various seed production activities. In industry, private-sector management and technological development will continue to be supported. The Presidential Secretariat, the Ministry of Finance, the National Bureau of Statistics and the University of Guyana will benefit from efforts to improve public-sector planning, monitoring and management capacities.

6. The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) multisectoral project will assist a number of government and government-related institutions, in particular, the country's health services. UNDP cooperation will also be directed towards the strengthening of democratization and good governance; proposals to increase the municipal revenue of the capital city; the strengthening of the government Tourism Unit; the achievement of higher quality production in the gemstone industry and improved government capacity for mobilizing external resources. Another nine projects in the macroeconomic subsector, which have been funded under cost-sharing arrangements out of resources contributed by the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Caribbean Development Bank, provide direct assistance to the Government in its objective of improving its capacity to plan, monitor and manage the economy and society.

7. During 1991, needs assessment and programming missions were part of the preliminary work for drafting the country programme document. The new Government intends to use the period of extension to review this work in order to gauge the extent to which it conforms with current realities and priorities. UNDP is, moreover, engaged in discussions with bilateral and multilateral donors with a view to rationalizing interventions, particularly in the areas of agriculture, coastal-zone management, capacity-building and democratization, and coordinating them in a coherent programme.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

8. The Administrator recommends that the Governing Council approve the second extension of the fourth country programme for Guyana.

V. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED RESOURCES TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR PROGRAMMING

A. Ongoing country programme	$
Fourth cycle IPF	10 086 000
Carry-over/borrowing (third cycle)	1 090 000
Carry-over/borrowing (fourth cycle)	1 995 000
Fourth cycle cost-sharing	1 333 000
Estimated expenditure 1992	3 339 000
Total	17 843 000

B. Anticipated resource needs for extension period	
IPF	2 882 000
Programme cost-sharing	294 000
Project cost-sharing	2 495 000
Total	5 671 000

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C. Fifth cycle balance available after extension period

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IPF	13 996 000
Fourth cycle borrowing	(1 995 000)
Estimated expenditures 1992-1993	(6 221 000)
Unprogrammed reserve (25 per cent)	(3 499 000)
Subtotal	2 281 000
Cost-sharing	3 673 000
Total	5 953 000